

AUBURN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR SESSION

January 24, 2005

Closed Session: 5:30 p.m.

Regular Session: 6:00 p.m.

The Regular Session of the Auburn City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall at 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California with Mayor Alice Dowdin presiding and City Clerk Joseph G.R. Labrie recording the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Kevin Hanley, Mike Holmes, Keith Nesbitt, Bob Snyder, Alice Dowdin

Council Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: City Manager Bob Richardson
City Attorney Charles Wachob
City Treasurer George Williams
Police Chief Nick Willick
Fire Chief Mark D'Ambrogi
Public Works Director Charles Clark
Engineering Division Manager Bernie Schroeder
Airport Manager Jerry Martin

By **MOTION** adjourn to a closed session under Government Code section 54957: **MOTION: Holmes/Snyder/Approved by voice.**

THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES

Consultation with: Auburn Police Chief Nick Willick

RECONVENE to Regular Session, 6:00 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

No report.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENDATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Dowdin reminded the Council that she would like to take up the matter of appointing a member of the community to the Mosquito Abatement District at the next Council meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Approved.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Warrants

By **RESOLUTION 05-08** approve Warrants #58841 through 59077 totaling \$1,043,381.59.

2. Council Minutes

By **MOTION** approve City Council Minutes of October 25 and November 8, 2004.

3. Auburn Airport East Hangar Project

Item removed at the request of Council Member Snyder; follows Consent Calendar.

4. Groundwater Monitoring at the Auburn Municipal Airport

Item removed at the request of Council Member Snyder; follows Consent Calendar.

5. Quarterly Report of Investments

Receive and file the "Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report" for the City of Auburn for the quarter ending December 31, 2004.

6. Effective Meeting Leadership Training

Item removed by Council Member Hanley; follows Consent Calendar.

***** End of Consent Calendar *****

By **MOTION** approve Consent Calendar as amended. **MOTION: Nesbitt/Holmes/Approved 5:0**

7. **Auburn Airport East Hangar Project**

Council Member Snyder had some concerns about Amendment #4. He was also concerned about finalizing the project without a complete plan to finance it. Is the project going to be phased and who is going to do it – the city or a private party?

After some discussion between the Council and Airport Manager Jerry Martin, by **MOTION** Mayor **Dowdin** moved to continue this item and direct it back to staff to make the suggested changes so that the contract before us deals specifically with the geotechnical work and all components that address the bidding will be deferred until the financing plan has been developed. Motion was **seconded** by **HANLEY** and **PASSED 5:0**.

8. **Groundwater Monitoring at the Auburn Municipal Airport**

Council Member Snyder said he thought there were too many tests and would like to reduce the number to once or twice a year.

Mayor Dowdin said that the City Attorney confirmed that the contract, as drafted, would allow for the frequency of testing to be changed without a problem.

Council Member Snyder added that, on principle, he was against no-bid contracts that get extended over and over again; it's a bad practice. Contracts need to be bid, even on renewals.

Engineering Division Manager Bernie Schroeder responded that these consultants have the qualifications and have the background, saw the tanks being pulled and did the original testing. To go out now and solicit more bids would be a mistake. We would have expenses associated with bringing the new bidders up to speed. Because we are so close to closure is why we recommended Council approval.

By **RESOLUTION 05-09** authorize the Director of Public Works to execute a two-year consultant contract with JJW Geosciences, Inc. for Groundwater Monitoring at the Auburn Municipal Airport for an amount not to exceed \$20,766.40 subject to the reducing of the frequency of testing.

MOTION: Holmes/Snyder/Approved 5:0

9. **Effective Meeting Leadership Training**

Council Member Hanley said he didn't see a need for spending \$750 for a 3 1/2 –hour class on parliamentary procedures.

Council Member Dowdin said the intention is to educate those new members on the Council as well as other committee members and commissioners of other entities. This would help insure that they run effective meetings and comply with the Brown Act.

Council Member Holmes agreed with Hanley and added that he didn't think we have a problem.

Council Member Nesbitt said this class could be conducted by someone in the city rather than by an outside consultant.

Council Member Snyder said he strongly supports this class because it would also train new leaders coming up from the grass roots. He said if you think you know all there is to know, you don't. This class is extremely beneficial and, at about \$50 per person, would be cost effective. He also hopes to videotape the meeting so it could become available to future leaders.

Mayor Dowdin said there is great benefit to those who attend. It makes a big difference when a meeting is run by someone who understands the rules. It would also be more effective than watching a video or reading it from a manual because of the interaction with the instructor.

By **RESOLUTION** authorize the City Manager to execute an Agreement for Consulting Services with June Koefelda to provide a training session on conducting effective meetings. **MOTION: Snyder/Dowdin/Failed 3:2/ No: Hanley, Holmes, Nesbitt**

10. **Public Comment**

Council Member Holmes said that the Fire House restoration project at El Dorado and Lincoln Way was coming along. The funds for the war memorial were sent to the monument company. He said he would also like the Council to be briefed on the City's safety programs.

PUBLIC HEARING

11. **Ordinance Amendment: Drinking Intoxicating Liquors in Public-1st Reading**

Police Chief Nick Willick said this amendment expands the ordinance to include areas that are privately owned but open to the public.

Dan Sokol of 1330 Deerwood Place told the Council that the law should address the effects of alcohol rather than its consumption.

Council Member Hanley said a line about public nuisance should be added.

City Attorney Charles Wachob said the ordinance already addresses public nuisances.

Hold first reading to adopt by **ORDINANCE** the changes to the Auburn Municipal Code regarding drinking intoxicating liquors in public. **MOTION: Hanley/Holmes/Approved 5:0**

First reading by title only by City Attorney Charles Wachob.

12. **Ordinance Amendment: Urinating or Defecating in Public- 1st Reading**

Police Chief Nick Willick said there was no City ordinance addressing this issue. The previous state law was eliminated and referred to local jurisdictions.

Hold first reading to adopt by **ORDINANCE** changes in the Auburn Municipal Code regarding urinating or defecating in public. **MOTION: Hanley/Holmes/Approved 5:0**

First reading by title only by City Attorney Charles Wachob.

13. **Adoption of an Updated Version of the Auburn Municipal Code-1st Reading**

City Attorney Charles Wachob said that in 2003 the City of Auburn contracted with American Legal Publishing to review and do a comprehensive update of the Auburn Municipal Code. The objectives were: (1) to delete references and provisions in the code that have been superseded by State or Federal law; (2) to revise the format and numbering system to make it easier for the public to read and use; and (3) to make the Municipal Code better suited for electronic use so the public

would have access to it on the internet through a link on the City's web site.

Most of the Code changes are not substantive. However there are a few noteworthy proposed changes:

- (1) An amendment included in Section 156.4 that would make it easier to control prolonged use of trailer coaches for living purposes while the trailer is parked on private property.
- (2) Amendments in sections 97.077 and 97.999 that would improve the citation process for Animal Control. It would permit more efficient handling of animal control violations through the administrative citation process.
- (3) Revisions beginning at section 95.25 that would improve and make more comprehensive the City's nuisance abatement ordinance

Introduce and read by title only an **ORDINANCE** revising, amending, restating and codifying the Auburn Municipal Code. **MOTION: Holmes/Hanley/Approved 5:0**

First reading by title only by City Attorney Charles Wachob.

REPORTS

14. Quarterly Reports from Committees and Commissions

- A. Library Advisory Board. Janeene Coleman, representing the Placer County Library Advisory Board and the Auburn Library Committee, read her written report, which has been incorporated into the agenda.

15. Informational Reports from Staff

- A. Police Chief's Quarterly Report. Police Chief Nick Willick summarized his written report, which was the final report for 2004. He said that the overall crime rate went up significantly – the highest in four years. The biggest increases were in thefts, vehicle thefts and assaults, especially domestic violence.

16. **City Council Committee Reports**

Council Member Snyder said that the Auburn Endurance Committee will launch the Auburn Challenge this weekend.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

17. **Development of Additional Walking and Bicycle Access throughout the City**

Council Member Hanley said the purpose of this item is to implement a series of policies that would connect current and new neighborhoods and commercial areas in the city by safe and attractive sidewalks, paths, crosswalks and bike lanes. To achieve this goal, he suggested three steps of implementation as detailed in the agenda:

- 1) Alternative Street Standards.
- 2) Bikeway Master Plan
- 3) Pedestrian Master Plan

Council Member Nesbitt added that communities are healthier when people are out of their cars. People who walk tend to linger in business districts and people who linger in business districts tend to spend more money.

Mayor Dowdin opened up for discussion each of the three items above one at a time.

1) **ALTERNATIVE STREET STANDARDS**

Mayor Dowdin said she preferred not to make it a requirement for developers to install separated sidewalks. She would like to have flexibility and offer that as something that can be negotiated with development.

Jim Haagen-Smit of Newcastle urged the Council to do creative things to make the city more friendly to bicyclists and pedestrians.

Larry Smith of Auburn applauded the council for addressing this issue. This is an idea whose time has come. He believes that Auburn is the least bicycle and pedestrian friendly town he has ever lived in. He urged the Council to adopt all three proposed measures. He likes the idea of making this a living plan with a practical approach and setting priorities each year and then make sure those priorities happen.

Mr. Smith suggested widening some of the shoulders where feasible. He also suggested posting signs that say SHARE THE ROAD. He said developers should be induced provide set-asides or easements to allow people to walk from one area or neighborhood to the next.

Bicyclist Ray McAfee added that some traffic signals don't give enough crossing time for bicyclists or pedestrians. Some of the painted bicycle lanes are inconsistent and conflict with motor vehicle traffic.

Kathy Haagen-Smit said when developers come in, sidewalks should be a given. If they don't want sidewalks, they should have to provide a good reason.

Dan Sokol agreed and added the only way we get sidewalks these days is when development goes in. When it is not required the opportunity is lost forever. The Master Plan should have a sidewalk policy.

2) BIKEWAY MASTER PLAN

Jim Haagen-Smit liked the Bikeway Master Plan and the list of priority projects. He said a little bit of training on the part of city maintenance and city engineers is always good because they are often not that familiar with bike projects.

By **MOTION** approve item A, B & C of the Auburn Bikeway Master Plan. **MOTION: Hanley/Snyder**

In response To Council Member Snyder's concern and possible confusion about the words "living document", Mayor Dowdin **AMENDED THE MOTION** so that Item C would read "*Bikeway Master Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and updated as appropriate.*" **MOTION: Dowdin/Holmes/Approved by voice**

By **MOTION** approve item A, B & C of the Auburn Bikeway Master Plan. **MOTION: Hanley/Snyder/Approved by voice.**

3) PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

Council Member Hanley said the idea behind having committee to develop a Pedestrian Master Plan was to not overburden staff with additional duties.

Jennifer Finton of the American Lung Association of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails commended the efforts of the Council and would be happy to lend a hand whenever necessary.

Dan Sokol praised the Council for taking these steps. He added that the sidewalk program should include maintenance.

By **MOTION** create a committee consisting of two Council Members (Hanley and Nesbit) with the majority of the work to be done by the Council with some assistance from city staff to develop a Pedestrian Master Plan. The term of the committee will be for two years at which time it will be up for review. **MOTION: Dowdin/Holmes/Approved by voice.**

The Mayor then asked for volunteers from the public to participate on the committee.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:55 p.m.

Alice Dowdin, Mayor

Joseph Labrie, City Clerk